

R E M A R K S

Claims 16 and 21 have been objected to by the Examiner for the reasons set forth in paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action letter. The Examiner will note, the claims have been amended as suggested by the Examiner and, accordingly, it is believed that this objection has been eliminated.

Claim 16 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Wright et al., U.S. Patent 6,026,540. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is noted, with appreciation, that the Examiner has indicated that claims 17-19, although objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, the allowable subject matter of claim 17 has been incorporated into claim 16, and correspondingly claim 17 has been cancelled from the present application. In addition, claims 32 and 33 have been added to the present application, newly added claim 32 representing the combination of original claim 16 and allowable claim 18. In addition, newly added claim 33 represents a combination of original claim 16 and allowable claim 19. Finally, claims 34-36 have been added to the present application, all of these newly added claims being dependent from claim 20. Since the Examiner has indicated that claims 20-31 are allowed, it is believed that all of the claims in the present application are allowable and thus the present application is in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of claims 16 as amended, newly added claims 32-36 and claims 20-31 are respectfully requested.

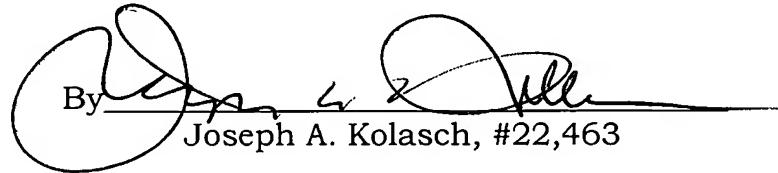
Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mr. Joseph A. Kolasch (Reg. No. 22,463) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By _____
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Attachment: Abstract of the Disclosure